of India, Bombay.

3. Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Costmetics Export Promotion Council, Bomaby.

4. Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council, Bombay.

5. Plastic and Linoleums Export Promotion Council, Bombay.

6. Council for Leather Exports Madras.

7. Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council, New Delhi.

8. Sports Goods Export Promotion Council, Calcutta.

9. Shellac Export Promotion Council, Culcutta.

10. Cashew Export Promotion Council, Cochin.

11. Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council, New Delhi.

ii). Under the administrative control of the Ministry of Textiles.

1. Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Bombay.

2. Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council, Bombay.

3. Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Bombay.

4. Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi.

5. Wool & Woolens Export Promotion Council, New Delhi.

6. Carpet Export Promotion Council, New Delhi.

7.. Handloom Export Promotion Council, Madras.

8. Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi.

Role of the Export Promotion Councils(PCs).

The main role of the PCS is to project India's image abroad as a reliable supplier of high quality goods and services. In particular, the Councils are required to promote and monitor the observance of international standards and specifications by exporters. The EPGs shall keep abreast of the trends and opportunities in international markets for goods and services and assist their members in taking advantage of those opportunities in order to expand and diversity exports.

[*Translation*]

Reinstatement of DTC Employees

5942. SHRI GOVIND CHANDRA MUNDA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether all D.T.C. employees, whose services were terminated some years back, have been reinstated;

(b) if not, the number of employees which are yet to be reinstated; and

(c) the time by which they are likely top be reinstated?

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). Of the 3125 employees who were dismissed from the services of DTC for taking part in illegal strike

in March, 1998, 3004 have already been reinstated. Of the remaining 121 dismissed employees, 12 have expired and 109 have not come forward for reinstatement.

NHB's Assistance for Construction of Houses

5943. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Housing Bank, Bombay has extended refinance facilities to the state Agricultural Rural Development Banks of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi for the construction and repair of houses in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b). National Housing Bank (NHB) which has its headquarters at New Delhi, has formulated a Scheme for subscription to Special Rural Housing Debentures (SRHDs) in terms of which NHB subscribers fully to floated by agricultural Rural Development Banks, covering there in the entire lending for rural housing under the scheme against guarantee of the concerned State Government. NHB has reported that the Agricultural Rural Development Banks of Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh have not applied for financial assistance from NHB under the scheme for subscription to SEHDs so far.

[*English*]

Jute Mills

5944. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any proposal to set up some jute mills in the country particularly in district Saharsa in Bihar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b): In accordance with the new Industrial Policy no license is required for setting up jute mills in any part of the country including Saharsa in Bihar.

[*Translation*]

Export of Manganese Ore

5945. SHRI VISHWESHWAR BHAGAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange earned from the export of managanese ore during the last three years; and

(b) the facilities proposed to be given by the Government to the exporters for promoting the exports of managanese ore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The amount of foreign exchange earned from the export of managanese ore during the last three years was as under:

Year	*Value(in Rs., Crores)*
1988-89	13.51
1989-90	38.03
1990-91	41.54

(b) The export of managanese ore is being effected by MMTC, the canalising